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SOUTH AND EAST ASIA REPORT

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BRIEFS

BANGLADESH, THAILAND CONTRACT NOT RENEWED--Bangladesh and Thailand have decided not to renew the contract on bilateral fishing joint venture companies. This was stated by deputy prime minister in charge of the Ministry of Fishery S.A. Bari after the concluding round of the ministerial level Thai-Bangladesh talks in Dacca today. Bari told newsmen that the decision has been arrived at in the best interest of the two countries. The deputy prime minister, however, said that the two sides have agreed to examine the scope of further cooperation between the two countries in this sector at an appropriate time in the greater interest of bilateral friendly relations. Under the bilateral fishing cooperation agreement 37 joint venture companies in the private sector of the two countries with a total strength of 78 trawlers were allowed for fishing in the bay of Bengal in the territorial waters of Bangladesh for a 1-year term which expired on the 31st of last month. Thai Deputy Prime Minister Maj Gen Praman, who led a 16-member delegation of his country to the talks, left Dacca for home tonight. [Text] [BK281617 Dacca Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 28 Nov 80]

CSO: 4220

BURMA

COMBAT NEWS FROM WA, SHAN STATES, MYITKYINA

BK261220 (Clandestine) Voice of the People of Burma in Burmese to Burma
0030 GMT 26 Nov 80

[Text] Combat news from Maw Pha Area, southern Wa State: On 30 September, three enemy troops were killed during a clash at (Tangngo). On 25 October, an attack by the People's Army at Ho-pang killed three enemy troops and wounded four. On the same day, an attack by the People's Army at (Tangngo) killed two enemy troops and wounded two.

On 22, 24 and 29 October, small units of the People's Army launched guerrilla attacks at (Tong Ha La), (Tawng Pyin) and (Pong Kyan), killing five enemy troops and wounding two others.

Combat news from the Central Shan State: On 2 November, a unit of the People's Army and followers of the military government clashed at a place west of (Kwe Long Khauk). During the clash, five enemy were killed, two were wounded and two M-16, nearly 550 rounds of ammunition and some military equipment were seized from the enemy.

Combat news from the Sadon-Lauhkaung area east and northeast of Myitkyina: On 4 November, a small unit from the People's Army blew up a bridge located between (Nan Win) and (Saing Law) on Waing Maw-Chipwe highway; the bridge was used by the military government's mercenary forces to transport their supplies. On 7 November, a mine planted by the People's Army between (Hto Baw) and (Sahti) killed one enemy from the military government's mercenary 15th Infantry Regiment. His G-3 rifle was also destroyed.

On 16 November, a small unit from the People's Army planted mines after blowing up the enemy's (Na Maw) communication bridge. Some of the enemy forces, who came to clear the bridge, were wounded when they stepped on the mines.

CSO: 4211

BURMA

BRIEFS

JAPANESE LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE--Managing director U Pyi Soe and officials from the Livestock Development and Marketing Corporation on 18 November received 103 pigs and 5 tons of veterinary medicine and supplies, worth 34 million yen [1 million kyats], from Japan. This second batch of animals and veterinary supplies was sent from the Japanese Government for the pig and poultry development project of the Burmese Government. The first batch of 65 pigs was sent in January 1978. [BK250355 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 0630 GMT 19 Nov 80 BK]

YUNNAN DANCE TROUPE--The Yunnan Song and Dance Troupe members led by Wang Dain, on a visit to Burma under the bilateral cultural exchange program, left here by air in the afternoon of 24 November. Deputy minister of culture U Hla Pe, responsible officials, PRC ambassador to Burma Mo Yanzhong and staff members of the PRC Embassy in Burma saw the Yunnan Song and Dance Troupe off at Rangoon airport. [Text] [Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 24 Nov 80 BK]

PALM OIL DEVELOPMENT--A coordination meeting to discuss obtaining of joint financial assistance for the palm oil development project in Burma was held in Rangoon on 24 November. The meeting was attended by deputy minister of planning and finance Dr Maung Shein, deputy minister of agriculture and forests U Kyaw Htein and officials of the Swiss Development Corporation, the EEC and the Asian Development Bank. The project, the first to be carried out under a joint financial assistance program in Burma, will be financed by Switzerland's contribution of \$6.2 million and EEC contribution of \$5.9 million. The ADB will be in charge of project management. The project includes reclamation of 2,337 hectares of palm oil cultivated land, expansion of palm oil cultivation over 283 hectares in Launglon and (?Pagawyun) regions, construction of one palm oil mill each in Launglon and (?Pagawyun), facilitating transportation and storage of palm oil, establishment of a palm oil research unit, hiring of advisers and sending of state scholars. An annual output of 6,500 tons of palm oil is expected after completion of the project. [BK250355 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 24 Nov 80 BK]

CSO: 4211

GALLOPING INFLATION IN INDIA

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 15 Nov 80 p 8

[Text]

NEW DELHI Nov. 14: The wholesale prices in India have increased by more than 20 per cent in the last 12 months.

The price index for the first seven months of the current financial year (April-October) has risen to 16 per cent and since the central budget was presented by Indira Government four months back, the price index has gone up by eight per cent.

The average level of prices in 1979-80 was higher by 16.7 per cent, for which Mrs. Indira Gandhi and her Finance Minister Venkataraman have repeatedly criticised the Janata-Lok Dal Governments. But the first seven months of the current financial year under her government has seen another rise of 26 per cent. Yet Finance Minister Venkataraman has claimed recently at Calcutta that "galloping rate of inflation has been arrested".

The Government's claim about inflation control has been belied by two leading English dailies, the 'Times of India' and 'Daily Tribune'.

Commenting on the situation, the 'Times of India' in its editorial of Nov. 4 issue said the factors contributing to the general price rise have not relented and there seems little likelihood of their doing so in the near future. On the contrary, things could worsen. The official assumption that the inflationary pressure would ease after the kharif harvest has been belied. Agricultural production this season is now expected to be appreciably less than what had earlier been estimated.

The supply-demand imbalances in the case of a large number of industrial goods will probably continue to persist. Inavailability of diesel, coal and power remains poor. External influences have also not been favourable.

All this would have been more bearable had there been indications that things would look up in the medium or long term. But the pointers are to the contrary.

Editorially commenting on claim about inflation, the 'Daily Tribune' wrote last Tuesday "after another rise of 16 per cent in the seven months of the current financial year Mr. Venkataraman (Indian Finance Minister) is clearly in no position to maintain that the "galloping rate of inflation" has been arrested.

The paper writes "one will readily accept the recent setback to the supply of crude as a contributory factor to inflation, although this is not the major reason why production in the key sectors has failed to improve."

"Mrs. Indira Gandhi's statement that the output of power, steel, cement, copper and fertilizer has picked up, has not been substantiated. There is nothing to suggest that the turn round of available railway wagons has markedly improved. The railways, coal and industrial unrest depressed industrial production in 1979-80. If there is any improvement in these three key areas after the change of government, it is either marginal or non-existent" the Tribune writes. — APP

INDIA'S OIL CRISIS DEEPENS

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 16 Nov 80 p 5

[Text]

INDIA has been caught in the oil trap due to the Iran-Iraq war. The situation, experts warn, may become desperate soon. But top officials are taking care to scotch all talk of panic, sudden shortages or even difficulties in procuring oil from an already shrinking world market.

A top Indian official told Depthnews: "Why should we worry? The Soviets have agreed to help us. They are producing 500 million tons of oil. And we are raising bumper crops of rice and wheat. Rice alone will amount to 80 million tons during the current season. So, a swap of rice for oil is logical."

Also, both the Iranian and Iraqi Governments have assured New Delhi that they would maintain the supply of oil through whatever routes still open to them. Furthermore, the movement of Indian oil carriers will not be impeded in any way.

All this sounds fine until the crunch arrives. Fears are that if the war escalates, it will be almost impossible for New Delhi to procure the 6 to 8 million tons of oil products and some 3 million tons of crude still needed for the current year.

Reports suggest that there might be a cut in the use of furnace oil by a Government order. There were also rumours that eventually the Government may have to resort to petrol rationing.

But it seems that the Cabinet is dead set against oil rationing. What may well happen is a deliberate effort by the Government to reduce consumption of petroleum and oil products by public-sector companies which depend on imports for the manufacture of their products such as fertilisers.

India is banking on Russia's assurance to sell at least 6 million tons of crude to alleviate the crunch. The assurance was given during Indian President Sanjiva Reddy's recent visit to Moscow.

Also, the Government has resorted to spot buying on the world market. A spokesman refused to reveal details, but reports suggest that India has already bought some 300,000 tons of crude from the international market.

At the same time, the Government has decided to step up oil search to reduce the rising oil bill now estimated at 50,000 million rupees (U.S. \$ 6,300 million).

In a dramatic departure from its earlier policies, the Government suddenly called in the "Seven Sisters," the seven oil majors, to bid for collaboration in the digging of wells for oil and offshore exploration for both gas and petroleum.

The Government has not revealed so far the exploration terms. But one well-informed source suggests that it may be a 50 per cent buy-back guarantee from the oil companies who may have to spend about 60 million rupees (U.S. \$ 7.5 million) for the drilling of each well.

The Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC), the state-owned body which is already producing 10 million tons of oil from Bombay High and Assam, is planning to go in a big way to increase oil production from its offshore fields.

Already, production is expected to go up to 12 million tons a year.

However, leading scientists of the ONGC and leftwing critics are unhappy over the Government's move to invite foreign oil explorers.

"Are we inviting them to loot us?" asked one senior ONGC expert.

Yet, the fact remains that New Delhi is anxious to step up the oil search. The Ruman ad, which was available earlier and still continues, has failed to push the country to a high level which would have reduced the import of some 16 million tons of oil and 8 million tons of crude annually.

According to Government experts, India's crude oil requirements may go up to 43 million tons, including refined products, by 1984. If the demand escalates because of mounting industrial production every five years, India may end up by importing 115 million tons of oil and petroleum products by 1999. And the cost is staggering about 216,000 million rupees (U.S. \$ 27,000 million) annually.

One well-known oil economist says it means India will have to increase its oil production to 55-70 million tons a year from its present production of 12 million tons over a period of 20 years. He feels that it is not "impossible"

to achieve this if foreign oil firms are allowed to get on the act.

But an official committee which has reported on the energy situation recently sounds a rather disappointing note. Its report says "It is reasonable to assume that the production of 24 million tons would be reached by 1987-88 and this level of production would be retained up to the year 2001."

This is regarded as a highly conservative estimate. Even the Ruman feel that India can produce more than 30 million tons a year if efforts are made by the Government.

Top ONGC experts have prepared a 30,000 million rupees (U.S. \$ 3,700 million) programme for the next five years. This covers 95 exploratory and 200 development wells offshore and 250 exploratory and 300 development wells onshore.

However, senior ministers and policy advisers are not satisfied with this forecast of oil resources. Hence, the sudden move to invite foreign oil companies to look for oils. *The Muslim-Deputy Service.*

INDIAN PLAN TO SALVAGE COAL FROM RIVER BED

Karachi BUSINESS RECORDER in English 22 Nov 80 p 6

[Text] New Delhi, Nov. 21--Indian mining engineers are working on a project, claimed to be first of its kind in the world, to divert the course of a river and salvage 80 million tons of high quality cooking coal, buried under the river-bed, mining sources said.

Technocrats of the state owned Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC) have prepared a feasibility report for diverting the River Damodar along a 6.5 Kms (about four miles) stretch in the Kargali coal fields in eastern India.

The project is necessary as techniques now available do not permit mining under a river bed, the sources said.

The state owned monopoly company-Coal India Limited (CIL), stopped its operations with two collieries in the area in 1977 as the river, which elsewhere flows from north to south in a more or less straight course, made a horseshow bend.

The plan is to cut across the horse show with a 3.5 Kms (about two miles) canal but engineer foresee a major problem as the canal will have to take the volume of water which filled a stretch of river almost twice as long.

The water will also flow faster in the straight canal than it did round the bend and may flood areas in the lower reaches of the Bomabar or cause the river to change its course experts said.

An important thermal power station is likely to be effected if the area is flooded, and the experts are considering controlling the water flow by small dam across the canal.

Meanwhile, the Energy Ministry has launched an ambitious programme to increase coal production by 58 percent in the next five years, ministry sources said.

The target of 11.5 million tonnes produced in 1980-81 has been increased to 179.19 million tonnes by 1984-85

An investment of 3,000 million rupees (4 375 million dollars) is needed and France, Britain, Poland and West Germany have been asked for technical assistance.--AFP

CSO: 4220

BRIEFS

FOODGRAIN PRODUCTION--Foodgrains production in the country is expected to reach 170 million tons this year. Minister of State for Agriculture R.V. Swaminathan told the Lok Sabha that the production during the autumn season alone is likely to be a record 80 million tons. He, however, pointed out that there are some problems with regard to the spring season. Replying to a calling attention motion by Mr Navkishore Sharma, Congress-I, and others, the minister said a central team will be visiting Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Rajasthan and Haryana soon to assess the drought situation in these states and recommend central assistance. [Text] [BK260927 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 21 Nov 80]

MANIPUR CHIEF MINISTER--In Manipur, newly elected leader of the Congress-I legislature party Mr Keishing was sworn in on 27 November as chief minister. Along with him, two cabinet ministers and a minister of state were also sworn in. [Text] [Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 27 Nov 80]

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RESERVES--India's foreign exchange reserves between March and September this year registered an increase of about 455 million rupees. In the corresponding period during the previous year, the reserves had declined by 362 million rupees. Giving this information in the RAJYA SABHA 25 November, the finance minister said the government has been taking a number of steps to reduce the strains on the reserves to ensure their speedy growth. [Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 25 Nov 80]

DROUGHT AFFECTS 15 MILLION--New Delhi, Nov. 8--More than 15 million people have been affected by a prolonged drought that has parched vast tracts of cropland and turned lakes into mudflats in the northwestern state of Rajasthan, chief minister Jagannath Pahadia said today. Pahadia told reporters in Jaipur, the state capital, that the year-old drought has caused an acute shortage of drinking water in the districts of Ajmer, Bikaner, Jodhpur, Barmer and Jalore. The state government has asked the central government for massive relief supplies, Pahadia said. But he expected no food shortages in Rajasthan because India has buffer grain stock of nearly seven million tons. Farmers in India depend on rainfall from the highly variable summer monsoon. A good monsoon nurtures a bumper crop, while a bad monsoon can mean drought, famine and mass starvation. This year more than 1,200 people perished in widespread northeastern and southeastern India. But in parts of Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu states rainfall averaged less than half of normal.--APA [Text] [Karachi BUSINESS RECORDER in English 9 Nov 80 p 3]

SUBSISTENCE PRODUCTION, JAKARTA'S FLOATING MASSES

Jakarta PRISMA in Indonesian No 6, 1980 pp 35-43

[Article by Hans-Dieter Evers: "Subsistence Production and Jakarta's Floating Masses"]

[Text] Unanticipated development has split the community into two groups which differ sharply from each other. There is one basic group which is stable, economically strong and whose future is assured. There is another group which is not stable, shifts easily from one sector to another and quickly changes its occupation. It is this group which is called the floating mass. This is the largest group in the population. Its economic life features a hand-to-mouth existence, all of its income is used for food, and it is not involved in the market economy. In the following article Hans-Dieter Evers concentrates his attention on the last-named group, that is, on the prostitutes, domestic servants, tri-shaw drivers and the contract workers in the construction industry.

Backwardness in the City

The municipal areas have long been regarded as a center of progress and development, in contrast to the village areas, which are regarded as backward and not progressing. The people of the city are "modern," and the farmers are "tradition-minded," who are ignorant or informed regarding developments because of having access to sources of human power versus sources of traditional power, having low technology versus high technology, having an unproductive, subsistence economy versus capital intensive production for the market. There is a series of differences which are recognized as existing between city and village areas.

Of course, there is truth in this dichotomy. A considerable proportion of the population, at least in Indonesia, lives in village areas where income is really low, human suffering is high and book, school and hospital facilities are very much lacking. But while emphasis and serious analysis are provided for questions of backwardness in village areas, the structure and process of backwardness in the city are very little known. It is only in the last few years that a few new concepts and theoretical approaches have emerged, and there may be value in setting them out in an analysis of backwardness in the city.

It appears that, precisely because certain areas of the cities are more "developed," they are also more developed on the road to backwardness; that some questions of development have received stronger articulation, compared with other areas. This is

particularly true concerning what we regard as the primary features of development: the division of income and wealth which is increasingly uneven and some shortcomings in meeting basic needs, alongside the spread of the subsistence economy in the city areas. This is not "over-urbanization," a concept which is often used, but rather "urban under-development," which is rather an aspect of Indonesian urbanization which is very decisive.

In the following passages we will try to look at some characteristics of municipal under-development in Jakarta, the capital of Indonesia.

Population Distribution and Class Formation in Jakarta

Sufficient evidence has already been gathered to show that much of the policy of development which was oriented toward growth in the 1960's and 1970's caused the concentration of wealth and income which over time was increasingly uneven, especially in Jakarta as the capital. In the period from 1963/1964 to 1970 data obtained from the National Economic and Social Survey (SUSENAS), the Survey of Living Costs from the Central Statistical Office, as well as other sources, showed that "real living levels for about 40 percent of the lower-class population deteriorated; the gap between rich and poor in the municipal area increased; and that during this time comparative development between Jakarta and the other cities and village areas in Java was increasingly lopsided."¹

Table 1: Relative Distribution of Household Income, Jakarta, 1963-1970 in Percentages

	1963- 1964 (N = 1011 Households HH)	1967 (N = 720 HH)	1968 (N = 2598 HH)	1970 (N = 1978 HH)
<hr/>				
Quintile				
Q 5 (Highest)	42.6	46.3	47.7	52.0
Q 4	20.3	20.7	19.9	19.6
Q 3	17.5	14.7	14.3	12.7
Q 2	12.4	11.5	10.6	8.6
Q 1 (Lowest)	7.2	6.8	7.5	7.1

Sources: 1963-1964, 1967, SUSENAS; 1968-1969, Survey of Living Costs; 1970, King and Weldon Market Survey 1957: 387 [sic; not clear what 1957: 387 means in this context]

Conditions have not improved during the 1970's. Although per capita income quickly increased from 1970-1976, "the growth of income in Java not only was very much concentrated in the municipal areas but this was also connected with a very bad income distribution pattern in the municipal areas. This increased unevenness was very striking in the case of Jakarta."² Meanwhile, the lowest income group (the lowest 10 percent) only received 1.5 percent of the increase in income during the period 1970 to 1976; the highest 10 percent obtained 43.4 percent of the increase, and even this estimate may still be low).³

Table 2: Average Changes in Income by Category: Cities of Java, 1970-1976

<u>Category</u>	<u>Change in Percentage of Income Per Capita of Population</u>	<u>Percentage of Increase of Income Received by Category</u>
Lowest	22	1.5
II	22	2.0
III	30	3.3
IV	26	3.6
V	28	4.3
VI	30	5.6
VII	36	7.4
VIII	45	11.1
IX	55	17.8
Highest	81	43.4
<hr/>		
Total	49	100.0

The elite group in Jakarta is capable of amassing wealth, especially since the beginning of large-scale oil production at the start of the 1970's. A large proportion of this wealth comes from a number of forms of export activity, in which "the goal of obtaining foreign exchange...has been given priority over its function as a creator of jobs. As a consequence, Indonesian exports have been dominated by extractive exports or those which are land-based, that is, those for whose production not much labor is needed. In recent years (the average of the period 1974-1976) extractive exports have accounted for about 85 percent of total exports, while for the period before 1970 labor intensive and non-extractive exports occupied the dominant place. This change...was accompanied by the decline in the total number of jobs in export activity since 1971."⁴

Corruption is reported to be spreading, and cases of misappropriation of state funds on a large scale have been documented recently in court cases. A portion of these state funds has been invested according to the "capital whitening" [term given in English; nearest equivalent is "laundering"] system, which does not require that there be a statement of the source of the money and which "is an effort which is deliberately made to transfer money which is illegally accumulated into productive investment."⁵

In recent years members of the elite group have purchased extensive parcels of land in the area around Jakarta and perhaps in Jakarta itself, so that in some cases land-owning farmers and squatters have been pushed aside. "Large families have turned to buying land and hotels in the city in a very striking fashion on the smaller scale. They have also bought luxurious private homes, vacation houses and irrigated rice land in the village areas of Indonesia.... It has become public knowledge that officials and their families are the owners of many luxurious homes in Jakarta which are rented out to foreign businessmen and officials."⁶

The total number of wealthy persons in the cities is very small compared with the population of Java as a whole. A very large majority of the population must struggle hard to be able to live, and a high percentage of the population still lives below the poverty line. According to the National Socio-Economic Survey of 1976 average expenditure per person was Rp 9,846 (or about Rp 18,800 in 1979 prices), but some other surveys in specific lower class residential areas [daerah perkampungan] of Jakarta, on the contrary, show lower expenditure figures.

The "Floating Masses" of Jakarta

The quickness in the growth of Jakarta generally has been caused by internal migration, and this circumstance has given rise to a city society which is very complex in terms of ethnic origin, work and social group. It appears that there is a rather stable nucleus: long-term residents in steady jobs, businessmen, small industrialists and state employees. A large proportion of them, although not all of them, is employed in organized, large-scale enterprises, that is, the bureaucracy and the government industry. This relatively stable nucleus is surrounded by a "floating mass" of several groups of work, which are often known by the name, "informal sector."⁷ The special characteristics of this floating mass are geographic mobility and high-quality work. Seasonal visitors, temporary workers, people looking for work, those who have no place to live, having little or no formal education (but often possessing high levels of skill as farmers, fishermen or handicraft workers) as well as levels of income which vary greatly around the subsistence level, it is all of these who form the "floating mass." The term "proto-proletariat" has been used in another context in order to define these people in the class structure in the cities⁸ and "municipal involution" has been used as a concept to define this process of urbanization.⁹

However high the mobility and awareness of this "floating mass," this does not mean that it is narrow or "loosely structured"¹⁰, that it is lacking in a corporate group sense, or at least that there is intense interaction. The "floating mass" is tied to the government administrative structure of the RT (Household Association) and RW (Citizens' Association), which function well. There are neighborhood groups which have a very tight consistency: ethnic associations, working groups, family groups which are very much spread out but which are effective in an economic sense.

Thus far the most complete information regarding the informal sector in Jakarta and those who work in it is to be found in a survey carried out by LEKNAS (National and Social Cultural League).¹¹ This survey provides a general picture, but differences between various areas and working groups automatically disappear in a sample survey which is very basic. Detailed data based on research which goes deeply into the matter are still rarely to be found, although there has been much research done on peddlers by Lea Jellinek (1967-1977) and J. P. Karafir (1977), on farmers on the outskirts of the city by Koentjaraningrat (1974) and on tramps (gelandang) by Parauli Suparlan, which must be mentioned.

Although a complete picture of the social organization of the "floating mass" in Jakarta cannot be presented, at least some brief observations on a variety of problems faced by certain groups can be provided. The structure of this group consists of prostitutes, domestic servants, tri-shaw drivers, as well as contract workers in the construction industry, concerning whom research was done by personnel of the Social Sciences Training Center in Jakarta, affiliated with the University of Indonesia, in the course of 1978, under the direction of Prof. Koentjaraningrat and the writer himself. Research involving prostitutes carried out by Ibrahim Anali¹² discusses the efforts of the government of the city of Jakarta to supervise and rehabilitate the prostitutes. The total number of prostitutes in Jakarta, of course, cannot be known, but many of them are located in special areas. The occupants of these special areas declined in number from nearly 5,000 in 1967 to only 2,500 in 1977. This research concentrated on a special area, Kramat Tunggak in North Jakarta, in which 111 prostitutes and 15 procurers were interviewed out of 1,667 prostitutes and 231 procurers who lived and worked

there in 1978. Up to a certain point the rehabilitation program of the government has been successful, because each year a number of prostitutes marry, and many of them return to their places of origin. Although this is the case, we cannot conclude whether they really remain in their places of origin or whether they later return to the city. Whatever the case, it often happens that there are replacements for them.

There is only a small number of prostitutes who originate from Jakarta itself. Generally, they come from West and Central Java. Almost half of them are under 20 years of age and have no formal education. There are various reasons why they move to Jakarta and work as prostitutes, but in general they find it difficult to obtain work or are exploited so that they only earn low salaries. Perhaps the following case can well picture their position: a respondent stated during her interview that she had worked as a waitress in a restaurant in Central Java for a salary of Rp 4,000 per month. She began to work at 7:00 am and ended work at 8:00 pm. Because she couldn't stand up under the exhaustion involved, she finally left the job and looked for a new place of employment.

The hope of earning a high income from prostitution does not materialize for a large number of them. On the average they are paid Rp 2,150 for each customer and on the average receive 3 visitors each week. This gives them a gross income of about Rp 10,000 per month. This should be enough to live on, but "business expenses" must be paid: the procurer who receives a large amount, added to rent, medicines, clothing, and cosmetics, all of which, on the average, takes up Rp 28,600. The remainder is too little for them to be able to live. There are many prostitutes who are only able to eat once a day and, tragically, there are cases in which the babies they bear must be sold (70 cases)!, because they cannot pay the hospital costs. Studies of another group by Mohammad Hakim also are on women who migrate: domestic servants.¹³ This study is based on interviews with 100 domestic servants and 25 of their employers in the middle class area of the Jati Rawamangun district of East Jakarta. It is curious to note that in many cases migration did not occur on a spontaneous basis, but rather they were sponsored by an employment agent. Once freed from the policy of maintaining Jakarta as a closed city, the employment agents were sent to village areas to search for young girls to be brought to the labor market in the city. Just one agent might bring in 400 girls looking for work before the Muslim fasting month [Puasa] and collect Rp 7,000 from each worker turned into a domestic servant.

The relationship between domestic servants and their employers can be divided into three categories: relationship of a family nature (39 percent), in which the domestic servants are treated as members of the family but receive a small salary; feudal relationship (14 percent), in which hours of work are clearly followed, the type of work is certain and the salary is paid on a permanent basis. The salary is low, and only a small number of them (9 percent) obtain more than Rp 7,500 per month. In the third category is a substantial number of them who receive no salary at all. However, domestic servants generally appear to be satisfied with their lives if they obtain food and a place to live, as well as medicine when they are sick. Their private relationship with their employers and members of his family is regarded as more important than their total monthly salary.

Because a large proportion of domestic servants had worked for the same employer for less than three years (87 percent), they may be regarded as included in the "floating mass" of Jakarta, with an uncertain future in terms of their place of residence, income and work.

It can be said that there is no group in the informal sector in Jakarta which causes as much debate as the tri-shaw drivers, who form the essential point of discussion in the study of Mohammad Noer Pabel.¹⁴ This research is focused on three regions in East Jakarta, where about 6,400 tri-shaw drivers were registered, in addition to unregistered tri-shaw drivers whose total number was not known for certain.

Generally, their circumstances were the same as those of the other groups which we discussed previously, except for the fact that they are wholly composed of males. Many of them are new arrivals, all of them from Central and West Java, especially from the Indramayu and Cirebon areas. Generally, they have no home (47 percent) but sleep in the home of their employer or crowd into the palace where the tri-shaws are stored. Their educational level is low, 17 to 47 percent not having graduated from elementary school. Apart from the fact that tri-shaws have been operating in Jakarta for a long time, many of the tri-shaw drivers in the area of research had just entered on this kind of work.

Their average pay per day is Rp 1,360, and from this the tri-shaw rental must be paid, which ranges between Rp 250 to Rp 450 per day. Their daily income averages Rp 995, from which at least Rp 550 is used to buy food and drink. However, all of these figures vary from one person to another and from one day to another.

Their relationship with their employers apparently is very traditional and more fully resembles the relationship of patron and client than the relationship of worker-management. The enemy whom they most fear is not the "capitalist" from whom they rent their tri-shaw but rather the police. Of course, this question is increasingly difficult because Jakarta is being turned into an area free of tri-shaws.

Research performed by Sugiarto discusses construction workers who are employed on a government low-cost housing project (Perumnas) in the Klender district of East Jakarta.¹⁵ In this research project the distinction between the concept of the "informal sector" which involves several kinds of business activity (see the definition in the work of Moir, Jakarta: Informal Sector pp 155-163) and the concept of the "floating mass" which involves people is clear. The potential field of work is long-term in nature at the construction sites operated by the government and the big firms which are active in the construction sector. However, on the other hand among the daily workers involved can be found all of the characteristics of the "floating mass" of Jakarta.

The groups of workers are brought in by contractors (foreman). A large proportion of the 90 respondents came from West Java (59 percent) and Central Java (26 percent). About half of them have no permanent place to live and generally spend the night at the construction sites where they work or in temporary shelters. Their working conditions are rather hard. A large proportion of them work for 10 hours a day, seven days a week, for a daily wage of Rp 692. Their wives and children generally must contribute to family income or turn to subsistence production.¹⁶ Their job history is very unstable: more than 80 percent have changed jobs more than five times and have worked as tri-shaw drivers, farm laborers, have dug sand and many other kinds of work. They are a proletarian group which sells its labor whenever there is a demand for it from above, but they are not really fully employed, so that at times they still can work in other jobs. Their work history is too varied to permit the development of a clearcut worker-capitalist relationship. Their situation is too uncertain to create class awareness by itself. Their families work as poor farmers and farm laborers, and indeed they generally are seasonal workers (circular migrants), leaving their families and often returning to their villages. In fact, they are neither farmers nor city laborers.

Although the four research projects mentioned above were focused on work groups which vary, one from another, and work in different areas of Jakarta, some similar characteristics are seen which may identify the low income group in Jakarta, whose total number is larger. Mobility and uncertainty about what will happen in the future, low levels of income and education, but a capacity to organize in small groups to overcome some difficulties of life in the city, as well as maintaining family and other relationships with their areas of origin. The "floating mass" of Jakarta is not without system or homogeneity. They are not a working class such as may be found in an industrial society. They are also not a "lumpenproletariat." Perhaps that is the only thing that we can say by way of a general conclusion from the four research projects described here.

Subsistence Production in the City

Research concerning low income residents in Jakarta was carried on by the Social Sciences Training Center of the University of Indonesia in 1979. Ten investigators carried out a program of coordinated research concerning satisfaction of basic necessities as well as household economics in the city.¹⁷

The survey of a total of 1,201 households was not statistically representative in character for Jakarta as a whole. At least it was representative of the rather special area of Jakarta. The 10 sub-projects were carried out in certain areas in PuloGadung, one of the main industrial areas in Jakarta; in Jatinegara, a long-established sub-district; and in Klender, a low cost housing project built by Perumnas. Average monthly expenditure per capita was Rp 12,890 as of the middle of 1979. Without including remittances from the places of origin of the migrants, their own production, and mutual assistance, average expenditure per household was only Rp 47,900 per month--a figure which approaches the poverty line. But the average figure may be deceptive. There are many families which live on an income lower than this average figure. There was no hunger in the research area, but low nutrition and poverty were clearly evident.

If income is low and insufficient to satisfy the basic needs of household members, other sources of income must be employed. Income in the form of money may come from work in the formal or informal economic sector, whether earned by the head of the household or by other members of the family. In general, income received from the principal job is insufficient, so that another job must be sought. There are many households which also must rely on loans or, in the case of new arrivals, on remittances from their villages of origin, if available. All sources of income usually were included in the surveys on the cost of living, on jobs, or on household expenditure, like those carried out by Susenas, Sakernas or the Cost of Living Survey of the Central Statistical Office, but one source for satisfying basic needs has been disregarded: production of goods and services within the household for use by the members of the household.¹⁸ We have used the term "subsistence production in the city" to refer to this form of activity.

The term "subsistence economics" generally is used specifically in terms of the agrarian village economy, whose productivity is low. Subsistence production is part of agricultural production which is consumed by the members of the household themselves. The producers are all consumers, and the interaction of the market does not take place. This type of economics is set against a commercial farmer economy or against an urban industrial economy. This view is too simple. The economy of the farmers is far more complex, and the urban economy is not at all isolated from subsistence production. Although we are proposing a very limited definition as involving subsistence production and only refer to goods which are produced for direct consumption in the household involved, the level of production in terms of market prices is certainly high.

Growing vegetables for one's own consumption, raising chickens or ducks, looking for food in a garbage dump and building or improving a home are some examples of subsistence in the city. However, the concept can be further broadened. Taking water from a well or collecting firewood are both a part of subsistence production, as is preparing food on a daily basis, teaching one's own children or caring for the sick in the family. All these services can be performed by domestic servants or special institutions like restaurants, schools or hospitals. If these institutions are used, first of all money must be earned to pay the respective costs, supposing that this is not provided by or paid for by the government.

Our research regarding various basic needs and the urban household economy shows that a rather large proportion of household consumption is met by subsistence production. On the average, of the total of 1,201 households interviewed in the two areas squatters constituted 18.4 percent, an average which is as high as a quarter of the consumption obtained from the subsistence sector. If these figures at least to some extent are representative of Jakarta as a whole, subsistence production amounts to about Rp 11,500 million per month. A large proportion of these figures is ignored and not included in the calculation of regional income.

Subsistence production generally is composed of foodstuffs, including fishing and livestock production.

Table 3: Subsistence Production in the City, East Jakarta, 1979

<u>Region</u>	<u>Percentage of Household Consumption</u>	<u>Average in Rupiah</u>	<u>Number of Households</u>
Pulogadung	19.91	9,500	480
Jatinegara	18.78	11,300	482
Klender	14.53	9,200	239
<hr/>			
Total	18.37	10,000	1,201

This is seen in a survey carried out by Sundoyo in the sub-district of Jatinegara, East Jakarta, which has very low family incomes.¹⁹ (See Table 4)

Table 4: Percentage of Food Consumption Obtained from Subsistence Production, Jatinegara, East Jakarta, 1979

<u>Subsistence Production As a Percentage of Consumption</u>	<u>Percentage of Households (N = 120)</u>
10 - 19	9.2
20 - 29	41.7
30 - 39	34.2
40 - 49	12.5
50 +	2.5

Another source of income is found in home construction and repair, followed by cottage industries like sewing or making furniture and household implements. Figures which are presented above are calculated on the basis of market prices: how much would goods made by oneself cost if the goods were purchased is the question which is asked to determine the price level. Services are calculated, based on the hours of work as well as an estimated minimum salary which is paid in the area of research. It is clearly very difficult to obtain correct data in terms of the level of subsistence production, but it is felt that if there are errors, that may lead to a low estimate of subsistence production.²⁰

Another important aspect of subsistence production, in addition to satisfying basic needs is the existence of mutual assistance bodies and the sending of goods and services from the village subsistence economy to the households in Jakarta. There are no market forces involved, there is no payment in cash, but social and kinship relationships are strengthened. The subsistence economy of the city for that reason is not limited to individual households but rather to a broader network of a number of groups and people.

Conclusions

Based on the basic analysis of research done by the Social Sciences Training Center (LUPHIS), several clear characteristics of "urban under-development" can also be seen. Although the situation in the city has been improved and incomes generally have increased, government statistical figures indicate that the gap between rich and poor has widened during the last 15 years. It appears that there are permanent residents of the city who are relatively stable in their social groups and whose income is higher and who are more or less within the low-income group. This "core" is surrounded by the "floating mass" of people who are very mobile in characteristic. Probably, they are new arrivals who have just moved to the city or even are seasonal workers who continue to move in several areas of residence. They often change jobs. Their period of work or the period they use land or a house are also not guaranteed. Their income often changes, and several sources of income must be used to be able to live.

One of these sources of income is "subsistence production in the city," or the production of goods and services by family members for their own use. It is not only women and children who are involved but adult males also grow vegetables and take care of chickens; perform construction work or improve their homes; and search garbage dumps in the city. Because their income in monetary form is low, their demands for satisfaction of basic needs are directed toward the subsistence sector and not toward the market sector of the city economy.

If not satisfied, their demands for meeting their basic needs, as they do not have cash to purchase goods and services in the market economy, will more often be expressed in a social rather than an economic way. Political action, restlessness, petitions, demonstrations or the use of force can become their means of expressing such needs. At present political action is relatively limited, but who can predict the actions of a "floating mass"?

FOOTNOTES

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4. Douglas S. Paauw, "The Labor-Intensity of Indonesia's Exports," EKONOMI DAN KEUANGAN, Vol XXVI, No 4, 1973, pp 447-456.
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14. Mohammad Noer Pabel, RESPONSE OF TRI-SHAW DRIVERS TO THE REGULATION ON THE TRI-SHAW FREE AREA, a case study on tri-shaw drivers in East Jakarta, unpublished report, Jakarta, PLPIIS, 1978.
15. Johannes Sugiarto, ELEMENTS IN THE ECONOMIC LIFE OF DAILY-PAID WORKERS, a case study on daily-paid workers in the Perumnas housing project in Klender, unpublished report, Jakarta, PLPIIS, 1978.

16. Hans-Dieter Evers, "Urban Subsistence Production in Jakarta," a working paper read to the seminar on FIELD STUDIES IN SOUTHEAST ASIAN DEVELOPMENT, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, Singapore, 15-19 Nov, 1979.
17. All of these surveys were directed by Dr Mulyanto Soemardi, who also edited them.
18. It is sufficiently known that surveys on household expenditure tend to understate the consumption of the lowest income group and the highest income group. Understating expenditures for longer-lasting goods and services tends to lower the figures for the whole of the high-income group and understates production for one's own needs....in terms of figures for the low income groups.
19. Sundoyo Pitomo, ESSENTIAL NEEDS OF THE LOW INCOME GROUP IN THE CITY OF JAKARTA, unpublished report, Jakarta, PLPIIS, 1979.
20. See the unpublished report of Rusmin Tamangor, SQUATTER HOUSING AND SAVINGS PRACTICES, Jakarta, PLPIIS, 1979, and M Ayub Akbar, THE ROLE OF SUBSISTENCE PRODUCTION IN SATISFYING ESSENTIAL CITY HOUSEHOLD NEEDS, Jakarta, PLPIIS, 1979.

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CORRESPONDENT DESCRIBES VISIT TO PRK-THAI BORDER AREA

Hanoi VIETNAM COURIER in English August No 8, 1980, pp 27-30

[Article by Ha Dinh Can: "A Visit to Western Kampuchea"]

[Text]

I was lucky to spend a whole month of the dry season in the mountains of Western Kampuchea, staying with revolutionary combatants who were defending the border, and with peasants engaged in rebuilding their villages. What I saw contradicted rumours spread by radio Beijing and by some ASEAN sources which are based on biased reporting carried out from the other side of the border and on tall stories about "basecamps" of Khmer Rouge remnants, and are designed to create instability in the area of the Cardamom Mountains.

An HU-1A helicopter was taking us along the western border of Kampuchea. We were in the dry season. Below us ran the Cardamom Range with its white peaks, deep gorges, and boulder-strewn streams. A year ago this was a hideout for remnants of the Pol Pot army. Now we could see smoke rising from fires started to clear the jungle for cultivation. On fireblackened spots from which the brush had been cleared we saw people working. Many waved greetings at us.

The Kampuchean - Thai border followed the western slope of the range, and on far-away peaks border posts could be seen which looked like houses on stilts of the Meo minority. In the days of Sihanouk, then of Pol Pot, the Cardamom Range was deserted by both the Royal Army and the Khmer Rouge, and border posts were set up far from the border, at a distance of twenty or even thirty kilometres. Now the Revolutionary Army has taken up positions as close as possible to the frontier.

We landed on the most advanced position which had a commanding view of the border. It was garrisoned by a company lodged in a dozen big wooden houses erected on the slope among green trees. In between the houses were vegetable gardens, volley-ball courts, and paths leading down to a stream. The border-guards, after a busy day, were playing volley-ball, tending gardens, or chatting in small groups. The officer on duty gave a blow of his whistle, calling his men to the dining hall. The food was plain - just boiled rice, salt and vegetables, but everybody seemed to like it well enough. The guards told us they knew that difficulties would remain for a long time, but that they were pleased with what they were doing.

On the bank of the Khlung Khlum river the scouts showed us a dirt trail weaving among the reeds and underbrush. It was interrupted by dried up streams, and disappeared completely on the western bank. Was that the "corridor" long which, according to Radio Beijing, supplies were flowing to Pol Pot remnants hidden in the most inaccessible mountain area at "co-ordinate 50"? The trail was discovered a month ago and today the guards had got hold of a man who knew something about it and about the people frequenting it. The man said his name was Xieng Go. He had just been arrested and had been given a ball of rice and a pinch of salt. This, for him, luxurious repast loosened his tongue.

"How often have you taken this road?"

"I took it for the first time today."

"What unit do you belong to?"

"I do not belong to any unit now. I came from Phuon, a camp in Thailand."

"What position did you hold there?"

"I was commander of Battalion 11, Regiment 12, Division 221. My division was battered in the last dry season and took to the mountains on the border. Only 27 men were left of my battalion when we finally made it to Thailand. Now I'm just a soldier."

"Who were you working for?"

"It's difficult to say. Someone said I should consider myself under Mr Son Sann. Others said I was serving Mr Kong Silek. Still others insisted that we belonged to the 'Angkor Khmer'. In the camp must have heard the names of at least ten different groups and parties - the 'Blue-Tusked White Elephant', the 'Wheel of Evolution', the 'Khmer Soul', the

'Angkor Khmer', the 'White Stork', and so on. The Khmer Seret is headed by Mr Son Sann, and the Khmer Seret army is commanded by Mr Deng, a bandit chief from the time of Lon Nol. They are armed with rifles marked with the initials RTA (Royal Thai Army). They rob people of their gold, money and clothing, and have contacts with Thai smugglers."

The interrogator told us a few details about Kong Silek and his men. Silek was a Navy captain under Sihanouk. He had recruited Pol Pot remnants and formed a pro-Sihanouk army called Molinaka (Movement pour la liberation nationale du Kampuchea). Silek's troops, numbering a few hundred and armed with Chinese weapons, would break into refugee camps and take away teenagers to form an army patterned on the Chinese "Red Guards". The children are trained in killing technique and, according to confessions by captives, are even initiated into blood-drinking in preparation for a return to Kampuchea for "revolutionary activities". There are a dozen such "armies" and "parties" in Thailand. They are massed along Kampuchea's western border under the protection of Beijing, the United States and some other countries, and are given high-sounding names to create the false impression of a "united front". They live on international relief food supplies brought in through Thailand, and are responsible for the troubled situation along the border.

The interrogation continued.

"What were you doing here, Xieng Go?"

"Planting mines. I was given six mines of the P2 and KP5 types (Chinese-made - Ed.), and three kilograms of rice and a can of salt."

"What have you done with the mines?"

"I'd planted three of them, but none exploded as yet. So I just waited. I had been told to wait until all the mines had exploded and then come back with the ears of my victims as evidence of fulfillment of mission."

We met three other prisoners when we called at Vietnamese Unit 39 which was also helping Kampuchea defend her western border along the Khlung Khlum river. It would be more correct to say that the prisoners had been "picked up" rather than captured. They were all females—Mao On, 33, from Kompong Chhnang, and Uylim, 19 and Hong Vuy, 15, from Battambang. They said they were from Transport Company 55, Regiment 210. Their company, they said, consisted only of thirteen persons. They had gone to the mountains the year before, from Pursat province, provided with some rice and salt which lasted them only a few months. Since they could not subsist on leaves and roots alone they turned to cannibalism. A list was drawn up by their commanders of those destined for butchering. The three prisoners were at the bottom of the list and were thus able to witness horrible scenes. When their turn drew near—only seven persons were left of the company—they decided to run away.

They were picked up by Vietnamese soldiers as they lay dying on a jungle trail. In the wicker basket carried by Mao On were a human hand and a few parcels of dried human flesh.

So much for the "resistance bases" of the Khmer Rouge Army in the Cardamom Range.

"What do you think made the Khmer Rouge eat one another?" the unit commander asked me.

"Hunger."

"Partly that. But the root cause is Pol Pot's genocidal policy, which has created a completely dehumanized army."

From the border we went inland to Lech, the capital of Krovien district. The district chairman was Tum Len, 32, a native of Pursat. He and his little daughter were the only survivors of his family. The other members had been put to death under Pol Pot.

"Those days were so terrible that I often wondered if my hair had all turned white," Tum Len, recalled.

From him we learned that in the four years under Pol Pot the district of Lech was a huge prison where were detained hundreds of thousands of Kampuchians including intellectuals, city-dwellers, foreigners, and also quite a few relatives of Sihanouk and Lon Nol. They were jammed into small huts and were worked till complete exhaustion—logging, building irrigation canals, making bricks—and then were thrown into huge mass graves.

"More than thirty thousand people have now come to Lech to build a new life," Tum Len said. "When we first came we had nothing to eat. We are sick and in rags. There were no shelters. Since relief food was insufficient we had to rely on help from the Revolutionary Army and the Vietnamese forces to avoid starvation. The troops, in order to spare food for the population, had to live on

tain rice gruel for months on end. It was thanks to them that none of us died of hunger all through those six lean months. Now we are no longer threatened by famine. We've brought in a rice harvest, and life is gradually returning to normal."

The district town had become busy again with a market, a school and a medical station. One night we attended a wedding. People sang and danced till dawn to the rhythm of drums. Among the guests was a teacher at the primary school, who had been taken to Lech from Phnom Penh by Pol Pot forces. "I was detained here," she told us. "I tried to escape but none of my attempts was successful. Now the revolutionary authorities say they will help me to return to Phnom Penh if I wish. But I don't think I want to leave. I feel attached to my 54 pupils, all orphans."

Thoong Na was another friend we made at Lech. Once we joined her in a day-long trip through the jungle to Seray, a hamlet at the foot of Mount Krovin.

Thoong Na, a native of Battambang, was 24 years old, tall, with a brown complexion and very beautiful. In 1975, when she was preparing for high school graduation exams, the city was overrun by Pol Pot troops. Thoong Na was driven from her home, like tens of thousands of other hapless people. She finally arrived at Krovin, where she lived in utter misery. A few days after liberation she joined a newly formed brigade of volunteers. For a year now she has been busy helping people settle down and tracking enemy troops hiding in the jungle.

She was leading the way at a good pace, a bag stuffed with medicines and bearing UNICEF markings and two rifles dangling from her shoulders.

"Hello, Thoong Na," the hamlet chief greeted her as he would an old acquaintance. "What is it this time?"

"Medicines for the children," Thoong Na answered.

"Anything for the militia?"

"Yes. Two rifles."

"Good."

Night fell. A big fire was built. A crowd of villagers came. The man and the girl talked for a while then the hamlet chief said turning to the other people:

"Let's begin."

Now we understood why Thoong Na had requested our company. She wanted us to witness an anti-illiteracy movement she and her friends had started at the hamlet.

The learners, old and young, sat around the fire. Some had notebooks or slates. Others had only bits of charcoal with which to write on the ground. They laboriously copied down letters written by the teacher on two wood planks taken from an old door. Their attitude bespoke great zeal and patience. That people should have begun to think of learning showed that they felt secure and able to stave off famine.

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During our overnight stay with a border-guard unit stationed in the western part of Krovin district, we made the acquaintance

of a Vietnamese engineer, a man over forty with greying hair. Dieu, the engineer, was helping our Kampuchean friends build a new road. He had spent many years building roads along the Truong Son Range. He said: "This region was never developed under Sihanouk, Lon Nol and Pol Pot. Even on recent military maps it is described only very sketchily. This makes our work very difficult."

Dieu spread out a map and continued: "This red line represents the new road. It will reach the Khlung Khlum river. It took me and Kampuchean surveyors three months of labour in the jungle to chart its course. This rocky range is a very hard nut to crack. It's more than one thousand metres high and the question arose whether to skirt it or cross it. A detour would take us through many valleys and across many streams, and that would mean a much longer road. So after surveying the area thoroughly, we decided to build a short cut across it."

Dieu predicted a great future for the road. It would remain open even in the rainy season and would be used not only for supplying border posts, but also for long-term development projects. Then the Cardamom Range would no longer be a mountain wilderness.

For the moment there were great difficulties to surmount.

In the terrible heat of the dry season, Vietnamese and Kampuchean soldiers had to move hundreds of thousands of cubic metres of earth and rock.

From where we were, we could hear the continual thunder from dynamite charges being set off. If

this were heard, I wondered, by some sensation-hunting Western journalist on the Thai side of the border, wouldn't he hasten to send home a report to the effect that "fierce fighting has been going on inside Kampuchea!"

East of the Cardamom Range was Highway 5, the main approach to the western border.

Our eastbound jeep bumped over pot-holes and hastily repaired sections of the highway. In the last dry season, the Pol Pot army had taken this same road to flee to Thailand. To cover its rear, it had dug ditches lengthwise on the road, blown up bridges and culverts, razed villages and hamlets on both sides, and forced the population to leave. The troops, mad with panic, would kill any civilians who refused to go, and would fight one another for booty. The road was littered with corpses.

Much has been done to repair Highway 5. There are new bridges and villages are being rebuilt on either side. We drove past newly restored paddy fields, and saw peasants working in groups, some for want of implements, using their hands to break up earth clods.

Also heading east were long lines of ox-carts, carrying people native of Svay Rieng, Takeo, Kandal and other interior provinces, who had been dragged to Thailand by the Pol Pot army, and who had managed to escape from so-called refugee camps there. For their homeward journey, they had received food and means of transport from local revolutionary administrations. The journey would be a long one, but no one seemed to care. On some of the carts we saw wooden boxes filled with earth, from which vegetable seeds were sprouting.

Both the civilians and soldiers we talked to vividly recalled how hard it had been "last year." "There were no houses, no barracks last year." "Last year we were threatened by famine." "Last year Pol Pot troops would attack hamlets and rob the population of rice." People seemed to be pleased with "this year", the beginning of a stable life.

I believe that even the peasants I saw breaking clods with their bare hands along Highway 3 are pleased with the new life. At least they know that now they are safe from the enemy, and are free to work their own land.

CSO: 4220

BRIEFS

MUSLIM LOSSES IN KAMPUCHEA--Kuala Lumpur, Nov. 8--More than 600,000 Muslims in Kampuchea have been reported missing since the outbreak of turmoil in that country in 1978, Foreign Minister Tengku Ahmad Rithaudeen said recently. He said: "There were about 6.5 million people in Kampuchea before the conflict and of this about 1.3 million were Muslims." Latest information indicated that almost half of the Muslim populace in Kampuchea was missing and it was not known whether they were still alive or dead, he added. The Minister pointed out that the on-going conflict in Kampuchea would not only result in greater loss of lives but also endangered the security of the region if not settled fast. He said an international meeting would be convened early next year under the auspices of the U.N. to find a solution to the Kampuchean problem.--APP. [Text] [Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 11 Nov 80 p 1]

CSO: 4220

SRV ASSISTANCE TO LAOS DESCRIBED

Hanoi VIETNAM COURIER in English Aug No 8, 1980 pp 25, 26, 30

[Article by Ky Son: "The Special Relationship Between Vietnam and Laos During the Anti-US Resistance and at Present"]

[Text]

The Anti - US Resistance (1954-1975).

Like the French in the past, the US imperialists considered the three Indochinese countries as forming a single battle-front. That is why, as it broadened its aggressive war against South Vietnam the United States also launched an air war of destruction against North Vietnam (1964), began a special war then an "intensified special war" in Laos (1961) and expanded the war to Kampuchea (1970). To defend their independence and sovereignty and build a life in peace and friendship, the people of the three Indochinese countries had no other alternative but to unite and coordinate their actions in the common resistance against US aggression.

This led to the formation of a *de facto* alliance of the Indochinese peoples through the Indochinese Peoples' Conference (1965) and the Summit Meeting of the Indochinese Peoples (1970). This was the logical development of the Vietnam-Kampuchea-Laos alliance founded in 1961 which now attained a higher level in the new conditions of history.

In the spirit of Indochinese solidarity the armed forces and peoples of Vietnam and Laos coordinated their struggle on the military front, especially along the Truong Son Range between the two countries. More particularly, they together defeated the Lam Son 719 campaign of the US and the Saigon puppet troops in the Highway 9 and southern Laos areas in February and March 1971. The two sides regularly exchanged fighting experiences and shared weapons and military equipment in the fight to defeat the common enemy.

Vietnam's experiences in production, economic construction and in cultural and educational development helped Laos in building its own liberated zone, fostering its resistance forces and normalizing and improving the life of the people in its resistance bases. The two sides also closely cooperated on the diplomatic front. The signing of the Paris Agreement on Vietnam on 27 January 1973 had the effect of accelerating the negotiations on Laos and led to the signing of the Vientiane Agree-

ment on 20 February 1973 which ended the war and restored peace in Laos. Seizing the rare historical opportunity offered by the great and complete victories of the Vietnamese and Kampuchean revolutions, the Lao People's Revolutionary Party led the Lao people in stepping up the struggle. They drove the United States and its satellites out of Laos, overthrew the more than 20-year-old neo-colonialist regime set up by the US, abolished the centuries-old monarchical regime in Laos, and founded the people's democratic republican regime without blood-letting.

The Situation Since the Complete Victory of the Revolution in Both Countries (1975)

In 1975 the national democratic revolution won definitive and complete success in both Vietnam and Laos. Both countries embarked on the road of socialist revolution on a national scale. Loyal to its internationalist obligation, in April 1976 the Vietnamese Party adopted a resolution on "enhancing the solidarity, mutual assistance and cooperation between the Lao and Vietnamese revolutions in the new stage". The resolution said that the Party, Government and people of Vietnam would increase solidarity and actively cooperate with the Lao Party, Government and people in the defence of the revolutionary gains, in consolidating national independence and sovereignty and in economic and cultural construction and development in order to successfully build socialism in both countries. At the same time the two parties and countries will coordinate their efforts in developing the influence of the revolution in the region, thus contributing to promoting the three revolutionary currents of the world.

This policy was reaffirmed in the resolution of the 4th National Congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam (December 1976) and many other subsequent resolutions of the Party.

It has been implemented in four main respects:

1. Vietnam actively helps Laos to increase its defence capabilities and coordinate its action with Laos in the common programme to defend the borders of the two countries and socialist construction in each country.

2. Vietnam increases economic and cultural assistance to and cooperation with Laos.

3. The two countries jointly build a border of lasting friendship.

4. Vietnam actively helps Laos in the training of cadres for various branches and levels.

The Vietnamese side considers assistance to Laos as a basic, allround, continual and long-term work. The legal basis for this assistance and cooperation is the documents signed in February 1976 and July 1977.

The documents signed in February 1976 laid down the general principles governing the relations of mutual assistance and cooperation between the two countries and worked out some urgent measures for Vietnam to help Laos overcome the aftermath of war and set up the first material and technical bases for economic development. The documents signed in July 1977 lay the foundation for Vietnam's allround and long-term assistance to Laos and for bilateral cooperation in all fields. They also included the Vietnam-Laos Treaty of Friendship and Co-operation, the agreement on the delimitation of the national borders between the two countries

and the agreement on Vietnam's aid and loans to Laos for the period 1978-1980.

The Vietnam-Laos Treaty of Friendship and Co-operation lays stress on socialist internationalism and on the principle of complete equality, respect for the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of each other, respect for the legitimate interests of each other, and non-interference in the internal affairs of each other.

About the 1,600km-long common border, Article 4 of the treaty stipulates: "The two sides affirm their determination to build the Vietnamese-Lao border into a border of lasting friendship and fraternity between the two countries." On this basis the two sides signed an agreement on the delimitation of the national borders between the two countries which provides a model for relations of good neighbourliness and friendship between two countries. The two sides have jointly conducted a series of investigations and surveys to delimit the national borders, planted border markers, discussed the setting up of border posts and laid down principles for the operation of border crossing points.

When the Chinese expansionists and hegemonists massed their troops along their border with Laos and even crossed into Laos, threatening direct aggression against this country, the Vietnamese side, at the request of the Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, and in execution of the signed treaty, sent armed forces equipped with appropriate means of war to help Laos strengthen its national defence capabilities.

On the economic plane, Vietnam's assistance, begun right after the birth of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, has helped Laos overcome enormous difficulties

caused by the war and by successive natural disasters (the drought of 1977 and the flood of 1978 were the worst natural calamities and caused the biggest damage to Laos's economy in the past half century). This assistance also helped Laos defeat the plan of economic blockade and pressure of the United States and its agents.

Afterwards, in spite of its own enormous difficulties, Vietnam continued to assist Laos in the fields of agriculture and forestry in particular, focusing on a survey of Laos's agricultural, forestry and stockbreeding potentials. Vietnam has helped Laos conduct basic surveys, then build a series of production and experimental establishments such as plant and animal nurseries, State farms, afforestation centres and logging camps, roads for the transportation of timber and forestry products, sawmills, turpentine and shellac extraction factories and factories manufacturing such production means as farm implements, fertilizers, insecticides and animal feed. Vietnam also helped in the survey and construction of small- and medium-sized hydraulic, irrigation and hydro-electric projects.

In agriculture, Vietnam also helps Laos in the programme for step-by-step agricultural cooperation and in the growing of Spring-Summer rice crop as well as in the application of new techniques of cultivation and stock breeding.

In industry, Vietnam supplies to Laos raw materials, fuel and equipment to expand and build a number of industrial establishments to produce tools, cement and building materials, engineering factories for the postal and communications and transport services, a number of consumer goods factories as well as some mining enterprises (tin and gypsum).

Vietnam is also helping in the repair and upgrading of old roads and in the building of new roads and bridges, in improving the navigability of its rivers, the building of ferries, and vehicle repair shops. A major joint project is being undertaken by Vietnam and Laos: to build roads from Laos to the Vietnamese ports of Vinh-Ben Thuy and Da Nang across the Truong Son Range. The transit through Vietnam of goods imported into Laos has also been scrupulously handled by the Vietnamese side under the terms of an agreement to this effect.

Vietnam's assistance and cooperation in the domain of culture and education has helped Laos shoot a number of documentary films, provide vocational training for Laos's art troupes and build the first material and technical bases for cultural and artistic work including a film studio and expand information and exhibition work. Many Lao students have been sent to study in Vietnam. Vietnamese cadres have also helped Laos to carry out an educational reform, improve school curricula, compile text-books, and open vocational schools and a teachers' college.

In the medical field, apart from supplying medicaments and medical apparatus and sending medical workers and specialists to help in disease prevention and treatment, Vietnam has also helped Laos to conduct basic surveys about some widespread diseases and local pharmaceutical resources.

The allround Viet-Lao mutual assistance and cooperation is also carried out at the local levels. Many Vietnamese provinces have sworn sisterhood relationship with Lao provinces:

Hanoi capital city has sworn sisterhood with Vientiane capital city; Lai Chau province assists

Phongsaly province and a district of Luang Prabang province; Thanh Hoa province assists Sam Neua province; Son La province assists Muong Son district of Sam Neua province; Nghe Tinh province assists the provinces of Borikham-say, Kham Mouane and Xieng-Khouang; Binh Tri Thien province assists Saravanne province.

The assistance of Vietnam's provinces centres on the supply of agricultural materials and equipment, the building of economic and cultural establishments, hospitals, irrigation and hydraulic projects, and some industrial enterprises and small industrial and handicraft workshops.

Hundreds of delegations of the Party, mass organisations and services at all levels of both sides have exchanged visits during which they discussed and mapped out concrete plans for assistance and cooperation.

The special relationship between Vietnam and Laos has stood the test of time. Kaysone Phomvihane, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party, said: "The militant alliance between the Lao revolution and the Vietnamese revolution, between the Lao people and the Vietnamese people... is an alliance for the survival of both nations, for the lasting independence and the prosperous development of both countries... On the basis of the complete identity of line between the two parties, the revolutions in the two countries fully support each other, wholeheartedly assist each other, create all favourable material conditions for each other—each taking upon itself the difficult part—coordinate their struggles on all fronts—military, political, economic, diplomatic... The all-round, steady and untarnished militant alliance between the two peoples of Laos and Vietnam is a rare model of proletarian solidarity

and internationalism. It has played an extremely important role and assumes the character of a law in the revolutionary struggle of the people of the two countries."

Le Duan, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam, also said: "The relationship between Vietnam and Laos, built on the basis of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, has created a wonderful spiritual and material strength to help the peoples of the two countries clearly

recognize their enemies and see through their wicked schemes, overcome all dangers and all reactionary forces, and take the two nations to their glorious destination... In the present conditions the special relationship between Vietnam and Laos has an even steadier basis on which to consolidate and strengthen itself and will surely increase several fold the strength of the people of each country in their endeavour to defend their respective countries and successfully build socialism in their motherlands."

CSO: 4220

THAI-LAO MERCHANTS DISCUSS RESUMPTION OF TRADE

Vientiane SIANG PASASON in Lao 30 Sep 80 p 2

[Text] Recently our reporters were performing their duties in the area of Hatsaifong District and they visited the Tha Deua Immigration Office and had a conversation with Thai and Lao merchants. The reporters interviewed these vendors and asked them their feelings regarding their ability to trade on both sides of the Mekong again.

One Thai female from Sakeo Lane in Nongkhai Province said: "I am very glad to be able to trade here in Laos again. When the border was closed I was not trading at all; I only stayed home without any income. I was anxious to return while waiting for the border to be reopened. I really missed Laos and all my friends here. I missed several of my goods that I had ordered that were left in Laos. I feared that they would spoil. I was so worried many nights I couldn't sleep. I was not the only one though; other merchants who used to trade in Laos were worrying just the same. Worse, we heard an announcement by the reactionaries that Laos was facing famine. That made me even more concerned about my Lao friends, therefore, when the border was opened I hurried back with some presents for my friends. But when I arrived here to witness the actual situation in Laos, there was no trouble to be seen. All seemed to be healthy and active; there was no sign of famine anywhere. Moreover, whenever I return home to the Thai side, I bring with me foodstuffs and rattan goods from Vientiane, such as baskets, trays and other goods to sell at home."

On the same occasion, Sen, a female Lao merchant who purchases goods from the Thai counterparts gave an account of the competition among Thai merchants. She said that on several occasions the Lao merchants modestly told their Thai counterparts that they were short of cash to buy goods, but the Thai merchants insisted on saying, "It is all right, pay us later..."

All this shows that the reopening of the border at some spots at Nongkhai Province benefits Thai merchants and people who trade in Laos the most, and thus making them the happiest.

9013

CSO: 4206

SAVANNAKHET POPULATION STATISTICS, MINING REPORTED

Districts Listed

Vientiane SIANG PASASON in Lao 20 Sep 80 p 2

[Article by T.S. Khotvongsi: "The Renowned Savannakhet Province"]

[Excerpts] Savannakhet Province covers over more than 21,600 square kilometers of land, comprising eight districts, which are: Khanthabouli, Champhon, Songkhon, Outhoumphon, Atsaphangthong, Phin, Sepone, and Maisamouai. There are 119 cantons, which include 1,358 villages, 75,165 households. Its total population is approximately over 446,000 which makes up 13 percent of the nation's population.

The population of the province is made of two major groups; Lao Loum, and Lao Theung, as well as various tribal peoples, such as Thai-Lao, Phouthai, Thai Meuang Sen, Katang, Jali, Mang Kong, Pacoh, Ta-oi, and other tribes. The Province can be classified as to two areas: plains and mountains, both constituting approximately 130,000 hectares of arable land. Many grasslands in both areas are suitable for animal husbandry and cultivation of various types of food crops. For example, the plains in Champhon and Songkhon Districts, are filled with rice and fish. There are bountiful forests with various kinds of valuable woods, besides a 200 kilometer portion of the Me kong River, which facilitates fishing and transporting of goods between provinces all year round. Moreover, there are several small rivers, canals, and inlets that can create conditions for the future construction of hydroelectric plants. In addition to bountiful above-ground resources, the province has several types of underground metal deposits, such as lead, gem stones, salt and other deposits. Following the nation's liberation, several factories have since been repaired and restored to resume their production. They include factories that produce carbonated drinks, vermicelli, salt, bread, plows, lime, and other goods.

Refugees, Strategic Highways

Vientiane SIANG PASASON in Lao 20 Sep p 3

[Article by Nguyen Thi The: "Savannakhet Progresses From the Destruction of War"]

[Excerpts] Along Highway 13, in the past only one crop per year was planted due to fear of droughts and floods. Irrigation projects of all sizes are thriving due to the efforts of the collective cooperative units. These can bring water into and drain it from farms as needed, so that crops are assured of flourishing over

several hectares of land, and during two planting seasons. Because of the accelerated resotration of the agricultural production, tens of thousands of the 446,000 citizens who had been refugees evacuated by the puppet troops, returned to their homes to resume their occupations, and in spite of hardships from natural disasters there was enough food to sustain their lives. Animal husbandry has expanded tremendously and their livelihood has improved. The livestock raised in the province, excluding those raised by collective production bases and state settlements, has increased to one million head, which exceeds the amount of animals in wartime by twofold.

The industries of Savannakhet at present comprise 31 factories, tens of handicraft cooperatives, and several thousand workers. In addition to the restoration of old factories such as logging and lumber factory and machine shops, Savannakhet Province, with aid from Vietnam, has several new factories. For example, a Dong Hen gypsum quarry, which had just begun its operation, has produced 10,000 tons of gypsum. Beginning in 1981 the quarry will begin its normal operation which will exceed current production by 10-20 times. The vermicelli factory, on the other hand, is capable of producing a ton of vermicelli each day. The brewery is now producing half a million litres of beer per year. The handicraft factory is able to produce over 3,000 plows as well as other handicrafts each month. The Na Teui salt factory can produce several thousand tons of salt per year. The ice cream plant and the lime factory have also begun their operation. These industrial goods produced by Savannakhet Province serve not only its own residents, but also those residents of the neighboring provinces as well.

Production and trade have now expanded; the network of collective stores has spread from the provincial level to the district level. Several places experience people joining mobile exchange units to traverse deeply into remote areas in order to exchange forest goods with the rural population.

In conjunction with the restoration of air and boat travel with Vientiane and neighboring provinces, Savannakhet Province has increased and prepared to extend Highway 13 and Highway 9, the latter being extended from the sea in Vietnam through Phou Luang Mountain, along the widest portion of the province, until it meets Highway 13, which runs along the Me kong River. With the 1981-1985 plan, and two strategic highways running through the province; in addition to the desire to follow the guidelines set forth by the party and state, the desire to raise high the spirit of self-reliance, the desire to follow the socialist path and will all-round, long-term cooperation with Vietnam, Savannakhet Province will become an important economic link connecting Laos and Vietnam, and the world. On such a foundation, Savannakhet Province is certain to expand in all directions and, therefore, will fully play a part in the task of building socialism and national preservation.

9013
CSO: 4206

PROSPECTS FOR RICE CROP SAID TO BE GOOD IN SPITE OF FLOODS

Vientiane SIANG PASASON in Lao 30 Sep 80 pp 1. 3

[Editorial: "We must Promote Better Nurturing of Rice Crop"]

[Text] At present, the harvest of the field rice of the multi-ethnic population has begun in Vientiane, Savannakhet, Khammouan, Samneua, Xieng Khouang, and other provinces. Meanwhile, the wet rice crop is maturing enough to blossom; the crop in many fields on the plains has just recovered from many floods and flash floods. As a result, the drive toward promoting effective nurturing of the people's annual rice crop is an urgent priority in order to promote production and to increase annual production capabilities.

In this drive for nurturing our people's annual rice crop it is important to salvage the flooded fields and restore them by draining water out of the fields; replant rice in the damaged fields and urgently fertilize fields in rolling terrain or on fields that have been waterlogged following the rains. According to scientific formulas, the rice crop must be fertilized 21, 45, and 65 days following transplantation. The majority of the rice crop at present is exactly 65 days old and is about to blossom. Fertilizing it now will make the rice stalks mature enough to produce ears of rice and strong enough to support their weight. Simultaneously, the preparation for pest control is another task that must not be ignored, especially in the rice fields in the north, on the Vientiane plains and in flooded areas which are infested by pests nearly every year. The pests include rodents, grasshoppers, caterpillars, aphids and other insects. The preparedness for controlling pests therefore is the task that our farmers must habitually practice, while keeping alert at all times.

In general, the task of resisting floods and pests, and nurturing our people's annual rice crop this year has proceeded with considerable success. Following the natural disasters, a great portion of our people's crop is maturing, which bring us hope for a good harvest. However, in the presence of unpredictable weather and many elements that can destroy our people's crop, one of the issues that all levels of administrative authorities and the administrators of every agricultural cooperative must take into consideration is the all-out attempt to maintain the consistent level of agricultural production of our people. At present, special attention must be paid on completely nurturing our the rice crop according to scientific formulas. While avoiding disasters that may be caused by droughts, floods, or pests.

We must consider this task a fundamental duty with which our people and every level of local administrative authorities are charged. We absolutely must not ignore it. This is because only by effectively nurturing our annual rice crop, thus reaping a good harvest this year, can the task of improving the livelihood of the cadres, soldiers, and the people, this being one of the major tasks set forth by the state and party, be substantially successful. In addition, this task is an excellent condition that will enable us to execute the state's first five-year plan with victory.

9013

CSO: 4206

BRIEFS

SARAVANE FOOD SALES--From last July to the end of August of this year the cadres of the food supplies sector of Saravane Province brought consumer goods to sell to the multi-ethnic people throughout the province. The total volume of these goods amounted to over 140 tons, including 85 tons of milled rice, 27 tons of sugar, 32 tons of salt, over 15,700 cans of milk, and other goods. The goods, although small in quantity, were able to partially improve the difficulties and shortages in the lives of the people. [Text] [Vientiane SIANG PASASON in Lao 30 Sep 80 p 1] 9013

COFFEE FACTORY PRODUCTION--During the first six months of this year the workers at the coffee factory under the Vientiane Industry and Trade Service have effectively exhibited a high sense of responsibility toward their duties. Throughout their actual production period they succeeded in producing 8,963 tons of No 1 coffee, 2,390 tons of No 2 coffee, and 243 kilograms of special coffee. These workers are at present courageously emulating each other's specialties in order to complete the expected achievements in the second half of the year. In addition, they attempted to achieve such high production in order to celebrate the Fifth National Day, 2 December. [Text] [Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 30 Sep 80 p 1] 9013

CSO: 4206

NEPAL

BRIEFS

ENVOY TO BELGIUM--Royal Nepalese Ambassador to Belgium Ramhari Sharma presented his credentials to his majesty King Baudouin I of Belgium at a ceremony held at the royal palace of Brussels on 13 November, according to the Foreign Ministry, reports RSS. [Excerpt] [BK260211 Katmandu THE RISING NEPAL in English 15 Nov 80 p 1]

GDR AMBASSADOR'S ARRIVAL--Ambassador designate of German Democratic Republic to Nepal Walter Schmidt arrived in Katmandu on 17 November to take up his assignment here, reports RSS. [Excerpt] [BK260211 Katmandu THE RISING NEPAL in English 18 Nov 80 p 1]

EXPORT EARNINGS 1978-79--Nepal earned foreign exchange worth 849,515,150 rupees through overseas exports during fiscal year 1978/79, reports RSS. According to the Trade Promotion Centre News Service, jute and jute goods constituted the largest export components during the fiscal year. Jute and jute goods comprised 33.4 percent of total overseas exports in 1978/79, according to initial figures. Rice, goat skins, woolen carpets, and handicrafts, constituted 28.7, 14.7 and 4.9 and percent respectively of the total overseas export volume. [Figures and sentence as published--four items given with only three "respective" figures] [Text] [BK260211 Katmandu THE RISING NEPAL in English 18 Nov 80 p 3]

CSO: 4220

BALUCHISTAN MORE PEACEFUL THAN OTHER PROVINCES

Quetta BALUCHISTAN TIMES in English 8 Nov 80 p 1

(Text)

QUETTA, Nov. 13

The law and order situation in Baluchistan was just normal and complete peace and calm prevailed in the province.

This was stated by the Provincial Governor Lt. Gen. Rahimuddin Khan while talking to newsmen after inaugurating the Pishin grid station today about 30 miles from here.

He said that the province of Baluchistan was more peaceful and harmonious than any other province.

Dispelling apprehensions the Governor said that the people of this province were as patriots as of any other province and they would not allow any miscreant to create any trouble in the province.

He said that the government was paying full attention to provide maximum facilities to the people and

in this regard many development projects were being completed.

When his attention was drawn towards shortage of liquefied gas in Quetta resulting hardships to the people, Lt. Gen. Rahimuddin Khan disclosed that he had spoken to the Federal Secretary Natural Resources and expressed the hope that the normal supply of gas would be resumed within a day or two. The National Refinery was closed for annual maintenance and this interrupted the normal supply to Baluchistan.

The Governor told a questioner that the Provincial Council will meet here on Dec 3 to discuss the development projects in the province. The Councillors would ask questions and give suggestions to accelerate the pace of development, he added.—APP

DEVELOPMENT OF BALUCHISTAN RECEIVING SPECIAL ATTENTION

Karachi BUSINESS RECORDER 22, 23 Nov 80 pp 1, 6

[Text]

—ZIA'UL-HAQ

QUETTA, Nov. 22: President General Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq said here today that Baluchistan would usher in an era of economic development if the tempo of work launched by the present government continued unabated.

Addressing a civic reception at Liaquat Bagh amidst the picturesque setting of juniper trees, the President said the present government had paid special attention to the economic development of Baluchistan. He said within a few years he visualised a happy revolution in the economic field in this province.

Giving a detailed picture of the measures adopted by the present government, the President said that during the last three years, 388 development schemes had been completed in the province at a cost of Rs. 150 crores. Work on more development projects was now underway. He added that the Federal Government had provided Rs. 231 crore for water supply, power and other development schemes.

GAS

The President said that the government had also taken practical steps to provide Sui gas to the people of Quetta.

He said that the supply of Sui gas to Quetta was considered as an uneconomic proposition. But he said he conceded to the demand of the people of Quetta and the Rs. 63 crore scheme had been taken up. He said that the land had already been acquired and survey work completed. In fact preliminary work had already been undertaken and by the end of next year the result would emerge.

INDUSTRY

He said that two textile mills had been set up in this province at a cost of Rs. 92 crore which would provide job opportunity to 7,000 local people. These mills had been set up at Baluch and Uthal although this province did not produce raw cotton, and had no market for its products.

The President said that a cement plant was also being set up at Darwaza with a capital outlay of Rs. 50 crore. He said

that the land for the mill had already been selected and developed. Funds had also been provided for machinery. He also referred to the setting up of Hub industrial estate and other development projects.

ELECTRIFICATION

The President further said that 150 villages in the province had been electrified, condition of 13 colleges improved and 100 beds had been provided in the new ward of Quetta Civil Hospital.

He said that a new science block was being built in Baluchistan University at a cost of Rs. three crore.

The President said that it was the policy and endeavour of the present government to exploit all resources with means for the development of Baluchistan area wise the biggest province of the country.

He said that the people of this province were prepared to extend all cooperation in this respect. He said that even the people of this province were coming forward on self-help basis to improve the economic condition.

—APP.

DEVELOPMENT PACE IN BALUCHISTAN ACCELERATED

Karachi DAWN in English 16 Nov 80 p 7

[Text]

QUETTA, Nov. 15: The Government of Baluchistan has been paying special attention to accelerate the pace of development in the backward areas of the province and to achieve this objective contracts have been established with the Federal Republic of Germany and World Bank for providing funds for the less developed areas of Baluchistan especially Makran division.

This was stated by the Baluchistan Governor, Lt-Gen. Rahimuddin Khan, while addressing joint meetings of the members of Local Bodies and Zakat Committees at Turbat and Panjgur today, an official handout said tonight.

The provincial Governor is on a three-day tour of Makran division has said that drinking water projects will be taken in hand on priority basis. The President General Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq has been requested to provide special funds for this purpose.

The Baluchistan Governor disclosed that the Provincial Government is sending a delegation to Kuwait to hold talks with the Kuwaiti Government on the development projects of Baluchistan.

Referring to the problems in education sector, Lt-General Rahimuddin Khan said that the Government has set up a high-power committee to visit other provinces and select educationists and teachers for rendering services in Baluchistan. He was hopeful that this will help overcome the shortage of teaching staff in the province.

INFRASTRUCTURE

The Governor said that the Government was striving hard to provide infrastructure in the province and for this purpose special attention is being paid to communication and power sectors. He said work on the construction of NCD Highway is in full swing and

it would be completed before the close of the next financial year. He said work on the road between Mand and Lasbela has already started and the Government will send another grader to speed up road improvement work.

The Governor further said that steps were also being taken to improve all important road links. He said that during the last three years the work in communication sector has advanced satisfactorily.

Lt-Gen. Rahimuddin Khan said that steps have also been taken to widen the runways of various airports in the coastal area to provide landing facilities for big aircrafts.

The Governor indicated that the Government was opposed to mushroom growth in the housing field and is therefore establishing a special cell to check this trend and submit a report to the Government for achieving this objective.

Outlining the Government's efforts in the power sector, the Baluchistan Governor said a proposal for the installation of 500 kw generators as a part of power expansion programme was under consideration. He said the Federal Government was making consultation with the Karachi Electric Supply Corporation for providing cheap power to Lasbela where the transmission lines are already available. He further said that WAPDA was working on priority basis for the Makran division too.

Referring to the development in agriculture sector, Lt-Gen. Rahimuddin Khan said that out of 100 diesel engines 71 have already been installed while the remaining engines will also be installed shortly. He said that special funds will be provided for the construction of bunds in the next Annual Development Programme.—PTI

PAKISTAN

RUSSIA OFFERS FINANCIAL AID FOR INDUSTRIES

Karachi BUSINESS RECORDER in English 13 Nov 80 p 1

[Text] Soviet Union is ready to provide financial and technical assistance to Pakistan for the setting up of several export oriented industries, Soviet ambassador in Pakistan V.S. Smirnov said in Karachi yesterday.

During a meeting with Mehar H. Alavi, President of the Federation of Pakistan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, he said the Soviet Union wants to promote Pak-Soviet economic cooperation in a big way.

He said in reply to a question that Soviet Union could provide funds and technical know-how for the setting up textile, electronics leather eased industries.

He said Pakistan can export 50 percent of the projects established with Soviet collaboration to USSR and 50 percent to other countries.

This way, he said, Pakistan can develop its export potential and also easily pay back Soviet credits for such projects.

He also said that the Soviet offer of assistance for export oriented projects is open to private sector of Pakistan depending on the policy of Pakistan Government in this regard.

Ambassador Smirnov said Soviet Union is ready to transfer technology to Pakistan in various fields to enable Pakistan to develop its economy faster.

He also disclosed that Soviet Union will send some 6,000 Soviet tractors to Pakistan this year.

Referring to trade he said exchange of goods in terms of value was the largest during 1979-80 and this year the two countries propose to exchange goods worth dollar 26 million from each side.--PPI

CSO: 4220

FRG AID FOR BALUCHISTAN

Karachi BUSINESS RECORDER in English 19 Nov 80 p 1

[Text] Quetta, Nov. 18--A high-level meeting in Quetta today discussed the ways and means to expand cooperation between Pakistan and the Federal Republic of Germany, particularly for the development project in the province.

The meeting presided over by the adviser to the Governor Raja Ahmed Khan, was attended among others by the Federal German Ambassador to Pakistan Dr Klaus Terfloth and senior provincial government officials.

Speaking on the occasion the German ambassador said a delegation from his country will shortly visit Pakistan to explore the possibilities for more German aid for implementation of developing programme in Baluchistan.

He said the Federal Republic of Germany has been provided assistance for development projects in Pakistan since inception of Pakistan and the two countries are cooperating in various fields. He hoped that this cooperation would further increase in future. He assured that all possible assistance would be provided for speedy development of Baluchistan.

Earlier the additional chief secretary of planning and development, Salim Abbas Jilani, briefed the visiting ambassador on the current development activities and future schemes.

The meeting was also attended by the provincial secretaries of health finance and agriculture departments, the commissioner planning and development and other senior officers of the Baluchistan government.--APP

CSO: 4220

PLANNED CENSUS CRITICIZED FOR LACK OF LANGUAGE DATA

Karachi DAWN in English 25 Nov 80 p 7

[Editorial: "A Dumb Census?"]

[Text]

As we brace ourselves up for the fourth decennial population census, scheduled from March 1 to March 15, 1981, we must be fully conscious of its significance and meaning. There is a lot more to this exercise than a search for reliable statistics for the planners and demographers. At a higher level, a census is a solemn ritual of discovery. This inventory is vital to nation in the task of discovering itself and acquiring the knowledge of its being in concrete, scientific terms. Knowledge drawn from the census, besides being a sacred national possession, is to be the basis of our responses and strategies of planning in various sectors, including physical development. Information about population according to its major classifications is a vital tool of social and economic programming. Hence, all efforts must be directed towards making it complete and authentic. Advanced demographic techniques are available. Absolute care must be taken to ensure that the

field work is not subject to inefficiency or personal biases. A census is a very large enterprise, involving an army of enumerators and officials. Each one of us will be directly affected. It will entail a high cost. But any lapse in the planning and execution cannot be removed at a later stage. Once the rounds have been made and the forms completed, second thoughts will be futile.

In one respect, the new census is making a glaring omission. As a report in this newspaper brought out the other day, the mother-tongue classification is not included in the census forms prepared by the Federal Census Organization. It is true that the classification was left out of the 1972 census. As authorities are wont to do, no explanation was offered to justify the exclusion of linguistic information. One was only left to make a guess. If the apprehension was that knowledge of linguistic complexion would be used for negative purposes in advancing regional and linguistic parti-

cularism, the answer is that exploitation of such factors is never dependant upon verifiable information. In fact, lack of precise knowledge often leads to negative approaches. Facts are necessary for positive and realistic measures. To be sure, the knowledge of truth in itself is a positive gain — a starting point for progress. It can lead to more fruitful responses. The importance of the mother-tongue classification, along with a tabulation of second language an individual knows or speaks, cannot be over-emphasized. It is important for research and scholarly studies which have a direct relationship with planning and advancement. We need this information to frame our cultural and educational policies and to formulate an approach to effective mass communication. The enumeration of speakers of languages must form part of the decennial census report, and we strongly urge that linguistic information which the census has traditionally supplied, except for the break of 1972, be restored.

ESSENTIAL ITEMS SHOW SHARP PRICE INCREASE

Karachi BUSINESS RECORDER in English 25 Nov 80 p 1

[Text] Spot commodity prices of a number of essential items including foodgrains and pulses have shown substantial rise in Karachi during last one year.

The most pronounced price increase--over 156 percent--has been in case of yellow gram which was available at Rs. 183.50 per 100 kilograms in October last year but has shot up to Rs. 470 per 100 KG last month.

Significant price increase--more than 42 percent--has also been shown by Irri-6 price which was priced at Rs. 160 per 100 KG last month as against Rs. 112.50 in October 1979.

Wheat prices have increased by more than 9 percent, that of Basmati rice by 16.67 percent and bajra by 8 percent during last one year.

A 100 kilograms of wheat was available at Rs. 156 in October last year but was priced at Rs. 170.50 in October this year. Price of same quantity of Basmati was Rs. 450 last year which has shot up to Rs. 525 last month. Bajra was being sold at Rs. 237.50 per 100 Kg last month as against Rs. 220 in October 1979.

However, the prices of jowar and maize have declined in last one year. Price fall in case of maize has been to the extent of over 17 percent while that of jowar it was about 9 percent.

Pulses

In case of pulses, Masoor showed sharp rise of 67.59 percent in last one year and its price jumped from Rs. 181.25 per 100 Kg in October 1979 to Rs. 303.75 in October this year.

Price of Moong increased by 17.67 percent and ended up at Rs. 366.25 per 100 Kg last month as against Rs. 311.25 in October last year.

However, in case of Mash, the increase was to the extent of only about 8 percent and was available at Rs. 397.50 in October this year.--PPI.

CSO: 4220

WHEAT NEEDS ESTIMATED FOR 1980

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 15 Nov 80 p 6

[Text]

KARACHI, Nov. 14: The final All-Pakistan estimate of wheat for the year 1979-80 places its area and production at 6.8 million hectares and 10.77 million tons respectively, as compared to revised estimate of 6.68 million hectares and 9.95 million tons of the previous year, according to the Ministry of Food and Agriculture.

The area and production thus indicate an increase of 2.7 and 8.1 per cent respectively over the last year.

In Punjab, the area and production of wheat crop for the year 1979-80 are finally estimated at 4.95 million hectares and 7.91 million tons. The area and production indicate increases of 3.0 and 8.1 per cent respectively over the last year's area of 4.80 million hectares and production of 7.32 million tons. The increase in area is attributed to improved availability of irrigation water, availability of early matured cotton crop are area for wheat cultivation and stable support price during the last year. The rise in production is assignable to favourable weather conditions proper supply of inputs and shifting of area from low yielding varieties to high yielding varieties.

In Sindh, the area and production of wheat crop for the year 1979-80 are finally estimated at 1.02 million hectares and 1.84 million tons indicating thereby an increase of 1.8 and 10.1 per cent

respectively last year's area and production of over one million hectares and 1.68 million tons. The increase in area is due to increase in irrigated area in Jacobabad, Shikarpur and Larkana districts which previously was unirrigated but it now being irrigated by the Guddu Barrage.

The final estimate of wheat crop from NWFP has not been received, however, according to second estimate the area and production of wheat crop for the year 1979-80 are estimated at 736,300 hectares and 784,900 tons. Both area and production show increase of 4.5 and 6.4 per cent as compared to the last year's final estimate of 704,700 hectares and 737,500 tons. The increase in area is due to grow more wheat crop campaign launched by Agriculture Department. Diversion of area from poppy crop towards wheat crop and favourable weather conditions at the time of sowing.

The final estimate of wheat crop from Baluchistan is also awaited, however, the second estimate places the area and production at 153,800 hectares and 209,300 tons respectively. While the area shows a decrease of 8.3 per cent, the production shows a slight increase of 0.2 per cent over the final estimate of last year i.e. 167,800 hectares and 208,800 tons. The decrease in area is due to failure of rainfall at sowing time in barani areas. -APP

MASS CULTIVATION OF SUNFLOWERS

Quetta BALUCHISTAN TIMES in English 16Nov 80 p 1

[Text]

PUNJGOOR, Makran DP vision. Nov. 15: The sunflower cultivation experiments in Baluchistan have proved successful and mass cultivation would be started from next season.

This information was given to the Provincial Governor Lt. General Rahimuddin Khan who inaugurated the wheat sowing season in Makran division at Punjgoor.

The Provincial Irrigation Secretary Brig Mohammad Usman informed the Governor that the climatic conditions of Baluchistan most suited the cultivation of sunflower here which would

pay rich dividend than any other crop.

He said the private cultivators and agriculturists have contacted the government for permission of mass cultivation of sunflower. He said with the cultivation of sunflower on large scale basis the country would easily overcome the shortage of edible oil being faced by the country.

He told the Governor that Baluchistan has achieved highest 45 to 50 maunds yield per acre of wheat in barani non-irrigated areas.

The Governor is on a three-day extensive tour of Makran Division —APP

CSO: 4220

PAKISTAN

PAKISTAN FACES SERIOUS ENERGY SITUATION

Karachi DAWN in English 13 Nov 80 p 4

[Text] Lahore, Nov. 12--Pakistan is confronted with serious imbalance in its energy requirements and resources and faces a situation worse even in comparison to some poor developing countries and needs harnessing as indigenous energy mineral reserves.

According to a survey report published by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Pakistan would require about 27,000 megawatts (MW) of installed power capacity by the year 2000 in order to reach the level of per capital consumption of 800 kilowatt hours (kwh) by that time.

According to the report, by that time world average consumption would reach over 4,000 kwh per capita.

Surveying various energy sources in Pakistan the IAE study says that oil, gas, coal and hydroelectricity if put together can provide only 11,000 MW of installed capacity. Pakistan, therefore, is to look for alternatives to meet the remaining requirements of 16,000 MW.

The developing countries of the Third World, which constitute more than two-thirds of the world population account for only 14 percent of commercial energy consumption while 86 percent of energy is consumed by the advanced countries with less than one-third of the world population.

The United States of America alone, with a population only six percent of the world population consumes 33 percent of the world output.

According to another report, at present Pakistan's total fossil oil reserves per capita are no more than 1 ton of coal equivalent, while its annual per capita energy consumption is 1.2 ton of coal and less than 200 kwh of electricity. Whereas in several advanced and developing countries consumption has gone up to 12 tons per capita of coal equivalent and electricity consumption of over 10,000 kwh.

The total oil reserves of Pakistan is presently estimated at about 36 million tons which corresponds to only three weeks' production of oil in Saudi Arabia.

The per capita energy resources of Pakistan of 15 tons of coal equivalent correspond to one-twentieth of the world average, the report adds.--PPI

CSO: 4220

OIL DRILLING CONTRACT WITH UK FIRM SIGNED

Islamabad THE MUSLIM 23 Nov 80 p 8

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, Nov. 22: A petroleum concession agreement was signed here today with B.P. Petroleum Development Ltd. for exploration and production of oil in Baluchistan and Sind areas.

The B.P., a subsidiary of the British Petroleum Company Ltd. of U.K., and the Oil and Gas Development Corporation have been granted prospecting licence over 5,460 sq. miles in the districts of Sibi, Kalat, Kohlu, Khuzdar, Nasirabad, Karachi and Larkana.

During the first four years the B.P. is committed to spend 22 million dollars on geophysical surveys and the drilling of three deep exploratory wells.

The foreign exchange component will be borne by the B.P. and the rupee cost by OGDC in the ratio of 97½ per cent and 2½ per cent before the commercial discovery. In case oil is struck in commercial quantity the share of OGDC will increase to 50 per cent, without reimbursement of previous expenditure incurred by the B.P.

Under the terms of the agreement, the B.P. will spud in its first well within 15 months of the grant of the concession area, and will later drill two more wells during the first four years.

The licence has been granted initially for four years with options for two more extensions of two years each involving commitment to drill more wells.

Secretary-in-Charge Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Resources M. Masihuddin signed the agreement on behalf of the Government of Pakistan and Mr. J.R. Grondon, Assistant General Manager B.P. Petroleum Development Ltd., and Iftikharuddin Ahmed, Chairman OGDC, signed on behalf of their respective companies.

The B.P. would be the 12th exploration company to join the oil hunt in Pakistan. Three of these are Pakistani, two in the private sector and the third, the OGDC, is in the public sector.

The Union Texas commenced drilling last month. Its first well, Damini No. 1 in Sind, is being set casing at 4,000 feet. Two more wells by this company are expected to be spudded-in before the end of the year.

The Gulf's second well, at Fim Kassar, is now below 5,000 feet while the Shell will begin drilling its first well in the middle of next month. The POL's Meral No. 5 is on production and No. 8 is drilled down below 7,700 feet.

The OGDC has spudded-in Tut-12 after bringing Tut-11 on production. Its Dhodak No. 3 is currently on production testing and Surjan (Sind) has reached the projected depth of 3,500 metres.

Both the wells are expected to indicate huge finds of gas, if not of oil.

Dhermond No. 1, with 4,335 metres, is also on trial production.

About 30 wells have been planned, to be drilled this year, against 14 last year.

RISE IN OIL CONSUMPTION IN TRANSPORT SECTOR

Karachi DAWN in English 18 Nov 80 p 1

[Text]

The use of oil in the transport sector has risen from 40.6 per cent in 1971-72 to 57.4 per cent in 1978-79, according to a study made by the petroleum industry.

In sharp contrast to the rising consumption in the transport and domestic sectors, its use in industry, agriculture, power generation and other sectors, mostly government, registered a decline in 1978-79 compared to 1971-72.

The industrial sector which accounted for 9.4 per cent of total oil use in 1971-72 consumed only 5.0 per cent of oil in 1978-79. Similarly the use of oil in the agriculture sector which accounted for 10.5 per cent in 1971-72 declined to 6.1 per cent in 1978-79.

Power generation accounted for 3.9 per cent of total oil use in 1971-72. Its share declined to 0.4 per cent in 1978-79.

The use of oil in other sectors also registered decline from 22.2 per cent in 1971-72 to 13.4 per cent in 1978-79.

The use of natural gas on the other hand, registered significant increase for all the three categories of consumers — industrial, commercial and domestic.

In 1978-79 compared to 1971-72 use of natural gas in the industrial sector increased by 63 per cent, in the commercial sector by 212 per cent and in the domestic sector by 454 per cent.—APP

BRIEFS

ASLO-TUNGSRAM FURNACE FIRED--Federal Industries Secretary Iqbal Saeed yesterday performed the furnace-firing ceremony of Aslo-Tunggram, a joint-venture of Tunggram of Hungary and Aslo group of Pakistan at Hub Chowki in Lasbela district. Earlier, Chief Executive of Aslo-Tunggram, Wamiq A. Zuberi, in his address of welcome threw light on the installation and operation of the plant and said it would produce lamps and also glass components required in lamp-making and that it would supply these components to other lamp manufacturers in the country. Aslo-Tunggram is located in Baluchistan and will be producing over 16 million glass-lamps annually. The project, Wamiq said, has already been sanctioned capacity for the manufacture of florescent tube-lights. [Excerpts] [Karachi BUSINESS RECORDER 22 Nov 80 p 1]

MORTALITY AMONG PAKISTANI CHILDREN--Lahore, Nov. 21--Of every 10 Pakistani children born, one dies before reaching its first birthday and over 25 in every 100 die before reaching their fifth birthday, according to a survey. The data available shows seven per cent among this group suffer from severe malnutrition which needs immediate attention. While another 10 per cent who are moderately malnourished also need to be kept in surveillance to check them falling into third degree cases. Although specific data on Punjab is not available but the situation is the same as it prevails in the country. It is estimated that about 0.614 million children need immediate attention while 5.2 million need to be kept in mind to check them falling the third degree malnutrition. There is also problem of low birth weight and lactation failure leading to discontinuation of breast feeding. The problem of malnutrition is equally severe in all the three groups, 0-5 years, 5-14 years and 14-45 years women of child bearing age. On the other hand, diarrhoeas disorders are number one killers of the young ones. Diarrhea is caused by malnutrition. Diarrhoea is very common in pre-school children and it is estimated that an average child gets at least five attacks of diarrhoea in a year. Hospital data indicates that at least 7.926 million episodes of acute diarrhoea occur in the province in a year.--APP [Text] [Karachi BUSINESS RECORDER 22 Nov 80 p 1]

POPULATION GROWTH RATE TO SLOW--Lahore, Nov 12--Pakistan's population growth rate is expected to narrow down to 2.53 percent in 1982-83, as against the present rate of about 2.96 percent. The current five-year population planning programme envisages bringing down the crude birth rate to 26.5 per thousand in 1982-83. The existing crude birth rate has been estimated at 41.6 per thousand. The population programme also aims to bring down death rate from the existing 12,000 to 10.2 per thousand in the next three years. With these projections, the population of the country is expected to be about 87 million in 1982-83 as against 80.20 in 1979-80.--APP [Text] [Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 13 Nov 80 p 6]

CYCLE PARTS INVESTMENT--Quetta, Nov 7--The country is to have in a couple of years two more Motorcycle Assembly plants raising the total of such plants to eight with a combined capacity of one lakh and five thousand units of assembled motorcycles and scooters annually. A Pakistani entrepreneur has also come forward with seventy million rupees programme for the manufacture of motorcycle parts with Japanese assistance in the private sector, official sources said in Quetta. It is proposed to be set up at Hub Chowki in Baluchistan which is a tax holiday area and is eligible for duty free imports. It will manufacture about 30 percent of motorcycle parts of Japanese make for the assembly plants already working in the Lasbela district with annual production of ten thousand motorcycles. [Text] [Quetta BALUCHISTAN TIMES in English 8 Nov 80 p 1]

WFP RICE PURCHASE FROM PAKISTAN--Islamabad, Nov. 12--The World Food Programme (WFP) has purchased in Pakistan 1,000 metric tons of rice worth Rs 3,267 (330,000 US dollars) from its cash resources for a WFP-assisted food-for-work project in Djibouti. The Saudi Arabian Government has contributed to the WFP a total of 105 million US dollars to make local food purchases in developing countries, like Pakistan, and the rice was purchased here out of the Saudi grant. The World Food Programme, jointly sponsored by the United Nations and the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), seeks to stimulate economic and social development through aid in the form of food. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 13 Nov 80 p 1]

JOINT OIL VENTURE--A joint venture agreement between the Pakistan Government and BP Petroleum Limited and the Oil and Gas Development Corporation was signed in Islamabad 22 November for undertaking petroleum exploration and production in Baluchistan. Licenses have been issued to BP Limited for oil exploration in a 5,400 square mile area in Baluchistan and the Larkana District of Sind Province. [BK260203 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 23 Nov 80 BK]

CSO: 4203

SRI LANKA

PRESIDENT COMMISSIONS TWO GUNBOATS FROM PRC

BK301505 Hong Kong AFP in English 1247 GMT 30 Nov 80

[Text] Colombo, 30 Nov (AFP)--President J.R. Jayewardene said today his government would not interfere in the affairs of any other country and he expected no country would interfere in the affairs of Sri Lanka.

Mr Jayewardene was speaking at the commissioning of two gunboats gifted to Sri Lanka by China. Mr Jayewardene said although the gunboats are vessels of war they would not be used for combat but to protect Sri Lanka's shores and to safeguard its independence. He said: "Sri Lanka was one of the founders of the non-aligned movement and follows the principle of non-alignment. Our government does not wish to interfere with the affairs of any other country. Similarly we expect that no other country will interfere with our affairs."

"We like to spend our time developing the country and tackling the problems facing the people like the problem of unemployment and inflation caused by world market prices," he said.

Mr Jayewardene commissioned the two vessels at the Trincomalee Harbour in the eastern coast amid the chanting of holy verses by yellow-robed Buddhist monks. He later took a five-mile ride in one of the boats.

The two Shanghai class fast attack craft are 127 feet in length and are equipped with anti-aircraft guns.

Sri Lanka navy commander Rear Admiral A.W.H. Perera said the boats would be used for coastal surveillance and anti-smuggling operations.

He said that in 1972 China had gifted five similar gunboats. Three of those boats were still in operation while two were undergoing extensive repairs by a Chinese team. China has also given spare parts for the boats.

The Chinese Ambassador Sun Shengwei said the People's Republic of China and Sri Lanka enjoyed traditional ties of friendship and these links had strengthened during the past few years.

CSO: 4220

SRI LANKA

BRIEFS

TRADE DEFICIT--Sri Lanka has recorded a trade deficit of 12.6 billion rupees in the first 9 months of this year with imports costing twice what exports had earned. The Ministry of Plan Implementation has said in its third quarterly performance report that crude oil imports in value terms have leaped in the period under review from 2.3 billion rupees in 1979 to 4.4 billion rupees this year. [Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 24 Nov 80]

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